March 24, 2021

Chair Long and Members of the Committee,

We're writing in strong support of Rep. Patty Acomb's Small Area Climate Model Projections for Minnesota bill.

We at the 100% Campaign support this bill because it serves as a foundational piece of policy and science to make sure communities across Minnesota and the state as a whole are able to adapt effectively to climate change. **The bill would (1) create a shared climate projection data set that all Minnesota communities can use for climate adaptation planning and (2) help build the capacity of communities and stakeholders to use this model data to effectively plan for and respond to climate change impacts.** The bill takes advantage of key partnerships at the University of Minnesota – the Minnesota Supercomputing Institute and the Minnesota Climate Adaptation Partnership – to do this work efficiently and well.

Minnesota communities are already feeling the impacts of climate change, and these impacts have real costs. From Mankato's water treatment plant being threatened by river erosion to the destruction of Duluth's iconic Lakewalk by climate-change-charged storms, communities are already grappling with the costs of climate change. Fortunately, many are stepping up with efforts to adapt to climate change and build resilience. However, these efforts are hindered by the fact that **Minnesota does not yet have the climate projection model data needed to fully ground this work with comprehensive, localized assessments of climate change impacts and risks.**

At the 100% Campaign, we recently published a white paper called Adapting to Minnesota's Changing Climate: Policy Proposals for Building Resilience in a Fast Changing State. In this paper, we surveyed the landscape of climate adaptation and resilience in Minnesota and identified a set of state policy proposals that would help Minnesota communities adapt to climate change. We found a lot of great climate adaptation efforts happening, and we also found some gaps. One of those gaps is that Minnesota communities, and the state overall, need solid climate projection model data to ground their work in the realities of Minnesota's changing climate. **Furthermore, communities and climate adaptation planners need training and support to use this projection model data effectively in their work.**

This bill addresses both of these gaps, which is why we support it strongly.

As Minnesota communities continue to ramp up climate adaptation and resilience efforts, and the state invests more in this work, **we ask the committee to support this bill as a foundational piece of getting climate adaptation right in our state.**

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Chris Conry
Campaign Director
100% Campaign
705 Raymond Ave. - Suite 100
Saint Paul, MN 55114
www.100percentmn.org